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By: MARK ZIMMARO Burlington County Times

PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP - The township will receive \$112,500 in federal grant money to buy an ambulance for the Browns Mills Fire Department.

The funds were awarded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The grant enhances the ability of fire departments to maintain 24-hour staffing and helps assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

The township is the fourth municipality to receive federal funds from the grant this year through the help of Congressman John Adler, D-3rd of Cherry Hill. Township officials said the emergency squads are operating outdated ambulances.

"This federal funding will help keep our community safe," said Ryan Meade, chief of the Browns Mills Emergency Squad. "I am grateful for the congressman's support to make sure our emergency personnel have the best resources they need."

Earlier this month Adler announced that Lumberton was given more than \$32,000 to purchase fire equipment. He also helped Moorestown in receiving a \$169,000 firefighters grant and the Vincentown Fire Co. in Southampton in getting nearly \$9,000.

Last year Adler hosted several workshops to ensure that public safety departments were informed about the federal grant process. He also voted to pass the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, which is providing \$800 million for Assistance to Firefighters grants.

"Our emergency responders risk their lives to keep our families safe," Adler said in a statement. "Burlington County residents deserve their fair share of federal resources."